

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2634

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CS

SUBJECT: FACIO COMMENTS ON CUBA AT THE OAS MEETING

1. ALL MAJOR PAPERS TODAY, JUNE 26, CARRIED REPORTS OF FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO'S STATEMENTS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 25. FACIO REPORTEDLY SAID, "THE GOVERNMENT PREFERS THAT CUBA NOT PARTICIPATE (IN THE UPCOMING SAN JOSE OAS MEETING) AND THAT THE PRESENCE HERE OF A CUBAN DELEGATION WOULD NOT BE CONSTRUCTIVE." HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT "IT IS FALSE AND ABSURD" TO SAY THAT WE HAVE INVITED OR ARE GOING TO INVITE CASTRO OR ROA." HE ALSO SAID "CUBA IS EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING AND, MOREOVER, IS NOT INTERESTED IN ATTENDING."

2. WITH REGARD TO THE OAS MEETING ITSELF, THE FOREIGN MINISTER STRESSED THAT THERE WOULD BE TWO WEEKS IN SAN JOSE DEVOTED TO REFORMING THE RIO TREATY. FACIO EXPLAINED THAT THE REFORM OF ARTICLE 17 IS ONE OF THOSE POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED. IN REGARD TO THIS PARTICULAR ARTICLE, HE ADDED THAT A MODIFICATION IS BEING SOUGHT THAT SAYS "THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION WILL...ADOPT DECISIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS BY A VOTE OF TWO THIRDS OF THE STATES BUT IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED

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MEASURES (CUBAN CASE) A MAJORITY WILL BE REQUIRED".

FACIO THEN REPORTEDLY EXPLAINED THAT THE RIO TREATY REFORMS
MUST BE RATIFIED BY EACH COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT AND THAT THIS
PROCESS
WILL TAKE ONE OR TWO YEARS.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE SPECIFIC CASE OF LIFTING
THE CUBAN SANCTIONS, FACIO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT
IF THE SANCTIONS ARE TO BE LIFTED IT WILL BE
NECESSARY TO GO THROUGH THE SAME PROCESS THAT
WAS UNDERTAKEN IN QUITO, "PRESENT A MOTION THAT
REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS VOTE (14 VOTES) IN ORDER TO
LIFT THE SANCTIONS."
TODMAN

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